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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/807,183	03/24/2004	Michael Martin	Patton 03-1	4140
33349	7590	06/16/2006	EXAMINER	
ALUN L. PALMER, PATENT AGENT 4300 PINEY CHURCH ROAD WALDORF, MD 20602			PAPE, ZACHARY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/807,183	Applicant(s) MARTIN ET AL.	
	Examiner Zachary M. Pape	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 15-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 13-21 in the reply filed on 3/6/2006 is acknowledged.

DETAILED ACTION

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 13, 15, 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Theroux et al. (US 5,381,304).

With respect to claim 13, Theroux et al. teaches a method for assembling a power supply, comprising the steps of: providing at least one internal circuit board (18); said at least one internal circuit board comprising a vent hole (44); providing a case (12); placing said at least one internal circuit board in said case (See Fig 1); plugging said vent hole (Column 4, Lines 25-30); and filling said case with potting compound (19).

With respect to claim 15, Theroux et al. further teaches baking said power supply (See: Column 6, Line 30, see also Column 7, Lines 2-5).

With respect to claims 18 and 19, Theroux et al. further teaches that after said case has been filled and cooled, unplugging said vent hole (Column 4, Lines 25-30).

With respect to claim 20, Theroux et al. further teaches providing at least one locating groove (Formed by the lower flanges (20) and the top tapped flanges (30)) in an interior surface of said case (12, See Fig 1) locating said circuit board (18) in said groove (Column 3, Line 65 – Column 4, Line 1).

With respect to claim 21, Theroux et al. further teaches providing at least one notch (20) in a lower edge of said case (12, See Fig 1), locating said circuit board (18) in said notch (Column 3, Line 65 – Column 4, Line 1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theroux et al.

With respect to claim 16, Theroux et al. teaches the limitations of claim 15 above and further teaches that the power supply is baked at a temperatures in the range from 80-120C, but fails to teach a time period of 5-15 minutes, however It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select a potting compound which can be baked at a period of 5-10 minutes since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or working ranges involves only routine skill in the art. In re

Aller, 105 USPQ 233. In the present case baking for a less extended period of time would reduce manufacturing costs and time.

With respect to claim 17, Theroux et al. teaches the limitations of claim 16 above but fails to teach specifically baking at 100C for 10 minutes, however It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select a potting compound which can be baked at 100C for 10 minutes since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or working ranges involves only routine skill in the art. In re Aller, 105 USPQ 233. In the present case baking at 100C for 10 minutes would reduce the manufacturing/assembly time thus reducing costs.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

With respect to claim 14, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in dependent claim 14 and at least in part because claim 14 recites, "said power inlet connector comprising a groove therein, providing a clip; and sliding said clip into said groove".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 13 and 14 are believed to render said claim 14 patentable over the art of record.


Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5,075,821; US 3,721,865; US 6,583,988; US 6,317,324; US 6,473,304; and US 6,642,448 all further teach encapsulation of electronic devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri. (8:00am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


**LISA LEA-EDMONDS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ZMP